

TO: C/OTG

FROM: [REDACTED] 135

1. Presentations - Although I realize that lectures and presentations were an integral part of the training, I think some pertinent readjusting must be done on the scheduling of lectures. In short just too much time was spent in Arena B. Every educator knows that the attention span of a particular class increases with the age of that class, but I am certain that not even an adult group like ours has an attention span to equal eight hours a day in Arena B. An individual just cannot absorb eight straight hours of lecturing, especially if many of the subjects covered are new to him. This was especially true in my case where all the technical training that others might have acquired in the military was lacking to me.

Many times our class was criticized for not asking questions. True we may have been a quiet group, but I feel much of the fault was again because of Arena B. The atmosphere is far too formal to prompt an informal discussion. If it's an informal discussion you want, then use one of the smaller seminar rooms, or the classrooms.

The speakers making the presentations were trained as lecturers in varying degrees. Some were outstanding; others did not have the voice volume to reach the back of the room. It's rather difficult to follow a technical discussion on a subject you know little about when you cannot hear what the lecturer is saying in the first place.

2. Technical training - I would consider the technical training I received to be outstanding. Again I would emphasize that this would vary with the individual trainee.

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3. Exercises - The exercises were valid and beneficial with the exception of [REDACTED] which I think should be dropped from the course. A breakdown of the exercises is as follows:

a. [REDACTED] - a good exercise to start off with. It was not too demanding of the trainee, but allowed him to get his feet wet.

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4. Reports writing - I think we had a very competent and conscientious staff to train us in writing reports. I feel that I leave the course much more able to write reports. Although I realize the psychology of forcing the students to come back from a meeting and turn in a quantity of reports, I also question the quantity versus quality situation. There were times when I would have liked to work a little longer on a cable or a report, but the hour was growing late, and I still had two more reports to write. Consequently, I was not always proud of the written work I had turned in.

In closing, I would term the course a very valuable one which I am glad that I attended. It was personally very beneficial to me. I do not feel I can criticize the content of the instruction by the lecturers because I knew little of their subject areas.

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